



Dear Citizens,

The first week of school is exciting and affects every community in Baltimore. Young people are up early in the morning crowding bus-stops. Parents struggle to find time to shop for new clothes and supplies before the first day of school. As much as the students may dread the daily grind of school, there is a hope in the air as they begin to take another step towards graduation, college and adulthood.

For the city of Baltimore, this week represents a great challenge. Thousands of public school children depend on us to provide them with an outstanding education. We must create a safe, nurturing, and educational environment every day. No student is expendable, and every day is important as we prepare them for the future. As your Mayor, and as a parent, I take that responsibility seriously.

This coming week, I will attend a series of Back-to-School events throughout Baltimore. These events will bring community members together with star athletes and community and business leaders to help prepare our children and young people for their first day of school, and for many school-years to come.

Tuesday, August 21:

3:00 p.m., Mayor Dixon and Baltimore Ravens' Ray Lewis to Host Back-to-School Event at the Morning Star Baptist Church, 1063 West Fayette Street, Baltimore.

Wednesday, August 22:

10:00 a.m., Mayor Dixon to Host Press Conference to Announce School Facilities Plan at Highlandtown Elementary School, 231 South Eaton Street, Baltimore

4:00 p.m., Mayor Dixon to Host Annual Back-To-School Rally at the Baltimore City Public School System Headquarters, 200 East North Avenue, Baltimore

Friday, August 24:

4:00 p.m., Mayor Dixon to Host Back-to-School Festival in Park Heights at Pimlico Race Course, Baltimore

Saturday, August 25:

1:00 p.m., Mayor Dixon to Hand Out Food at the "Back-To-School Jam" Hosted by Set the Captives Free Outreach Center, 7111 Windsor Boulevard, Baltimore

Our schools are improving. Year after year, the state test scores for our young people get higher and higher. This is a result of the hard work and dedication of our teachers and parents, who have a renewed focus on the lives of their children. Coming into this environment is the new schools CEO, Dr. Andres Alonso. Dr. Alonso comes to Baltimore from New York City, where he oversaw year after year of testing improvements for their children. I am confident that his approach to education will bring years of laudable achievement to our schools. I am happy that Dr. Alonso will join me this week at some of the back-to-school events.

The success of Baltimore's school children is critical for the long-term vitality of the city. This week, those who understand the importance of public education are coming together to prepare our children for their first day of 2007-08 school year. I urge you all take part in the lives of your local schools.

As always, I am interested in what you think about our plan to make our city a dynamic place to LIVE, EARN, PLAY and LEARN. Please [email me](#) your comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Sheila Dixon
Mayor
Baltimore

Sign Up for the Mayor's Neighborhood Newsletter

News for Communities from Communities

In an effort to continue our close work with neighborhoods on public safety initiatives and strategies, Mayor Sheila Dixon has given the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods & Constituent Services the task of creating a public safety newsletter; one that is created for communities and by communities. One of the recurring themes that Mayor Dixon and the Neighborhood Liaisons hear in community meetings is the need to receive information from the City on public safety strategies and a means to share best practices being implemented in various neighborhoods with regard to crime.

The proposed newsletter will be a forum for communities to share those best practices and for the City to provide information about initiatives such as Operation Crime Watch, Clergy on Patrol, and others. It will require the collaboration of community groups like yours, the Police Department, the Mayor's Office, and our other public safety partners.

We are really excited to be able to send out our first newsletter. In order to receive it, you will need to send a blank email to the following address: NeighborhoodNews-Subscribe@lists.baltimorecity.gov. You will receive a confirmation email once you have signed up.

The Mayor believes that community engagement is critical to the success of taking back our neighborhoods, so I urge you to please work with us in sharing and showing your neighbors that together, we can make a difference.

311 Community Challenge

August 2007 Winners

On August 1, 2007, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods and Constituent Services embarked on the **311 Community Challenge**. The Challenge is a pilot program for community associations to help strengthen confidence in the 311 system among residents, community leaders and stakeholders. 311 is an efficient tool for resolving neighborhood concerns and through this challenge we hope to encourage greater use of the system by community leaders and the members of their organizations.

For the August challenge of calling in graffiti, potholes, and faded signs in the community, we had more than 60 groups signed up to compete. Groups have been surveying their area daily and we have received great feedback from this initiative. I am proud to announce that the **Parklane/Greenspring Neighborhood Association** is our overall City Winner for this month's challenge. I commend your efforts and the efforts of every community in holding our agencies accountable for the services that you request.

In September we will have new challenges (from September 1st –September 15th), which will be provided a week before the challenge. To learn more about the 311 Community Challenge and how to get involved, please email the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods & Constituent Services at neighborhood@baltimorecity.gov.

Congratulations again to all of the participants and district winners for your efforts to improve the quality of life in your community.

District Winners:

Central – Tie (Reservoir Hill Improvement Council and Seton Hill)

East – Greater Greenmount Community Association

Northern – Parklane/Greenspring

Northeast – Tie (Ednor Gardens-Lakeside, Glenham-Belford, Hamilton Hills, Loch Raven)

Northwest – Whittier-Monroe

Southern – Carrollton Ridge

Southeast – Tie (Greenspace Action Partnership, Patterson Park, Patterson Place)

Southwest – Morrell Park-St. Paul

West – Sandtown Winchester Condo Association

9-11 Run to Remember

5K Run and 1 Mile Walk

Sep 11, 2007

Baltimore Police Headquarters
601 East Fayette Street
Baltimore, MD

7:00 a.m.

Entry Fees

\$25 if postmarked before Sept 1
\$30 thru Sept 10 (do not mail after 9/3)
\$35 Race Day

\$5 Discount for all law enforcement and fire agency employees.

For entry form and additional registration information, visit the [9-11 Run to Remember](#) homepage.

**CityScaping State Center
Stakeholder Meeting**

August 25, 2007

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Shake & Bake Family Fun Center
1601 Pennsylvania Avenue
Baltimore

The State of Maryland, the City of Baltimore and the State Center Development Team, and the Neighborhood Alliance are actively planning for the future of State Center. On August 25th we will be brainstorming and sharing our greatest ideas and hopes for the future of State Center. Come and participate in this phase of CityScaping – “Vision” and consider the possibilities!

For more information visit www.statecenter.org

**Baltimore Heritage Area
Now Soliciting Grant Applications**

Deadline is August 22, 2007

August 22, 2007 is the application deadline for the **Baltimore Heritage Area Small Cap Grant Fund**.

The Fund provides matching grants of up to \$10,000 for capital projects within the Baltimore Heritage Area. For a copy of the application and instructions, log on to www.baltimorecity.gov/government/heritage and click on “What are the benefits of

inclusion in the Baltimore City Heritage Area?" and "view the application."

For more information, contact Abbi Wicklein-Bayne

e-mail: abbi.wicklein-bayne@baltimorecity.gov

Phone: (443) 984-2369.

Baltimore Farmers' Market

Sundays Under the JFX

Baltimore Farmers' Market:

Everyone is invited to enjoy this one-of-a-kind shopping experience at economical prices. While strolling the market, guests can revel at the sight of the large quantity of the freshest fruits and vegetables, eggs, a variety of breads from Maryland area farmers, and delight in homemade treats. In addition, food vendors add spice to the market with cultural cuisine, popular pit beef sandwiches, pastries, cheeses, and gourmet treats.

Sundays, May 6 - December 23, 2007

8am to sellout, approximately noon

Holliday and Saratoga streets underneath the Jones Falls Expressway

Activities for the Whole Family

Special Events All Around Baltimore

The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks offers activities for city residents and guests - educational hikes and walks, sports leagues, youth and senior activities, and fun for the family.

Please visit [Rec & Parks' Events Calendar](#) for dates and times.



TV25: The True View of Baltimore

You have received this email because you have requested email updates from the Dixon Report, or you have been identified as someone who may be interested. If you no longer wish to receive these updates, simply send a blank email to dixonreport-unsubscribe@lists.baltimorecity.gov.